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prove to their advantage in the end ; because these extremes have a direct tendency to induce landlords to charge more for their lands than they would really bear when the prices of grain would come to their proper level.

PRICES OF GRAIN, &c.

BELFAST, Dec. 24th, 1813.	{	Oats,.....	s. d.	to	s. d.	
		Wheat,.....	8 6	to	9 0	per cwt. of 112 lbs.
		Barley,....	14 0	to	15 6	per cwt. of 112 lbs.
		Oatmeal,..	11 4½	to	11 6	per cwt. of 112 lbs.
DROGHEDA, Dec. 24th, 1813.	{	Oats,.....	16 0	to	16 6	per cwt. of 112 lbs.
		Wheat,....	13 0	to	17 0	per barrel of 14 stones.
		Wheat,....	41 0	to	45 6	per barrel of 20 stones.
		Oatmeal,..	16 6	to	17 6	per cwt. of 112 lbs.
DUBLIN, Dec. 24th, 1813.	{	Wheat,....	s. d.	to	s. d.	
		Oats,.....	28 0	to	46 0	middle price 39 10 per brl. of 20 st.
		Barley,....	15 0	to	18 0 16 5¼ per brl. of 14 st.
		Oatmeal,..	21 0	to	28 0 25 4½ per brl. of 16 st.
LISBURN, Dec. 28th, 1813.	{	Oats,.....	15 0	to	20 0 16 7 per cwt. of 112 lb.
		Wheat,....	8 0	to	9 3	per cwt. of 120 lbs.
		Oatmeal,..	16 0	to	16 6	per cwt. of 120 lbs.
BELFAST, Dec. 31st, 1813.	{	Oats,.....	s. d.	to	s. d.	
		Wheat,....	8 0	to	9 0	per cwt. of 112 lbs.
		Barley,....	15 0	to	0 0	per cwt. of 112 lbs.
		Oatmeal,..	14 0	to	0 0	per cwt. of 112 lbs.
		Oatmeal,..	15 6	to	16 0	per cwt. of 112 lbs.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

THE commercial advantages to arise from the change of affairs on the continent of Europe, are yet in prospect. Speculative avidity is eagerly employed in attempts to make the new channels of trade available, and merchants send their deputies to Holland, to renew the intercourse. But these plans do not always succeed, and doubts may be reasonably entertained, whether the foreign market, as well as the home market, may not be speedily overstocked. Buenos Ayres affords a warning to rash speculators.

The rise has begun at the wrong end. Cotton-wool and cotton-yarn have advanced on speculation, but the articles of cotton manufactures have not advanced by any means in the same proportion. This rise on the raw materials taking place before fresh markets are found for the manufactures, is likely to injure trade, by sending manufactured goods too dear to market ; and there is still room to doubt, whether the opening of the continental market will produce as great and as speedy effects, as have been anticipated.

An increased demand for white linens has taken place; but brown linens have advanced consequently in so much higher proportion, as to leave room to fear, that when the linens now buying go round to market, their dearness will once more throw a damp over the trade, more especially while war closes the American market against our linens. An indirect entrance for Irish linens to the United States is said to have taken place through the Bahamas, but probably not to a great extent.

Uncertainty hangs over the supply of flaxseed for next season. But little can be

expected from America, when the risks and delays attending a circuitous route are considered. Flaxseed last year in Holland was of an inferior quality, and is selling there at a very high price. From the Baltic large supplies may be expected, provided the frost permits flaxseed to be shipped in due time. If Dutch flaxseed arrive, it will probably be eagerly sought after, from its former character. A defect attends the American, that when the flax is suffered to stand long, so as to be fully ripe, it is subject to a disease called firing, from which other seed is more free. This defect is more felt in Tyrone, Monaghan, and those counties where flax remains longer before pulling, than in Down and Antrim, where to preserve its fineness it is pulled more early. The firing generally appears in the latter period of the growth of the flax.

The grain trade has lately received a check, by information being conveyed from the Custom-houses, that the bonds given on exporting grain to Spain and Portugal, will not be cancelled, unless a certificate is produced from the Commissary General in the Peninsula, either of his having purchased the grain, or that it has been offered to him, and that he did not want it. This claim of pre-emption is with less reason enforced at present, than when grain was so high as it was last spring; and now, when prices are so low, the hardship thrown on the trade is more without excuse.

A domestic regulation is wanting in this country, by having regular stated markets fixed for the sale of wheat. At present, Portadown is the only regular established market. Others might with great advantage be established. Lisburn, Antrim, and Downpatrick, would be eligible situations. The plan would be advantageous to buyers and sellers. The present markets at the flour mills, are attended with many disadvantages, which might be avoided by establishing, in the sale of this article, the plan of regular markets, in which buyers and sellers meet and transact their business in a more extensive and open manner. The establishment of regular stated markets has been found very useful in all trades in which the mode has been adopted; and there appears no reason to suppose but that established markets for wheat would have the like beneficial effects.

Exchange at the commencement of this month suddenly rose to 4 and 5 per cent. It again drooped a little, and now rates at about $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

NATURALIST'S REPORT.

*From observations made in the neighbourhood of Belfast. Latitude $54^{\circ} 35' 43''$ sec.
Longitude $5^{\circ} 58' 14''$ sec. West of London.*

From the 20th November, to the 20th December, 1813.

The Woodlark (*Alauda arborea*), the Common Wren (*Motacilla Troglodytes*), have continued to sing every mild day; sometimes the young Thrushes (*Turdus musicus*), and Redbreast (*Motacilla rubicula*), joining the concert. As more particularly marking the mildness of the season, some of the common house Fly (*Musca domestica*), have not yet disappeared. A few days ago, I saw a Gnat, or Musquitoe of the West Indies (*Culex pipiens*), on the glass of a window. A plant of the Japan apple (*Pyrus Japonica*), growing in the open air, has continued to expand several flowers.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

*From observations made in the neighbourhood of Belfast. Latitude $54^{\circ} 35' 43''$ sec.
Longitude $5^{\circ} 58' 14''$ sec. West of London.*

From the 20th November, to the 20th December, 1813.

Nov. 21,.....A pleasant day, with some slight misty rain.
22—26,.....Fine days. On the 23d, there was in the morning thin ice on the puddles.